

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1987–88, H1991, H1992, H1992–93, H2075–76, H2076–77. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Committee Meetings

DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing on Recruiting and Retention. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Charles S. Abell, Principal Deputy Under Secretary, Personnel and Readiness; LTG Franklin Hagenbeck, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army; LTG Roger Schultz, Director, Army National Guard; and LTG James R. Helmly, USAR, Chief of Army Reserve.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on The Department of Homeland Security held a hearing on Science and Technology. Testimony was heard from Charles McQueary, Under Secretary, Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, HHS, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, TREASURY, AND HUD, THE JUDICIARY, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies held a hearing on the Election Assistance Commission, and the Consumer Product Safety Commission. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Election Assistance Commission: Cracia Hillman, Chairman, Paul DeGregorio, Vice Chairman; Mel Martinez and DeForest Soaries, both Commissioners; and the following officials of the Consumer Product Safety Commission: Hal Stratton, Chairman; and Thomas H. Moore, Vice Chairman.

FOREIGN OPERATIONS, EXPORT FINANCING, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Agencies continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies continued appropriations hearings. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

EUROPEAN UNION—WEAPONS TRADE TO CHINA

Committee on Armed Services: and the Committee on International Relations held a joint hearing regarding U.S. national security and foreign policy implications of arms exports to the People's Republic of China by member states of the European Union. Testimony was heard from R. Nicholas Burns, Under Secretary, Political Affairs, Department of State; Peter Rodman, Assistant Secretary, International Affairs, Department of Defense; and Peter Lichtenbaum, Acting Under Secretary, Industry and Security, Department of Commerce.

DOD ROTORCRAFT PROGRAMS

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Tactical Air and Land Forces held a hearing on the Fiscal Year 2006 National Defense Authorization budget request on the Department of Defense's major rotorcraft programs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: William Balderson, Deputy Secretary of the Navy (Air Programs), Department of the Navy; BG Martin Post, USMC, Assistant Deputy Commandant for Aviation; David Duma, Acting Director, Operational Test and Evaluation, Office of the Secretary; MG Robert Bishop, Jr., USMC, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Air and Space Operations; and BG Jeff Schloesser, USA, Director, Army Aviation Task Force.

HEAD START

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Education Reform held a hearing on The Best of Head Start: Learning from Model Programs. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS PRIVATIZING

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet held a hearing

entitled “The ORBIT Act: An Examination of Progress Made in Privatizing the Satellite Communications Marketplace.” Testimony was heard from Donald Abelson, Chief, International Bureau, FCC; JayEtta Z. Hecker, Director, Physical Infrastructure, Office of Congressional Relations, GAO; and public witnesses.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity held a hearing entitled “Review and Oversight of the National Flood Insurance Program.” Testimony was heard from David Maurstad, Mitigation Division Director and Flood Insurance Administrator, Emergency Preparedness and Response Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; William O. Jenkins, Jr., Director, Homeland Security and Justice, GAO; Alfred W. Redmer, Jr., Commissioner, Insurance Administration, State of Maryland; and public witnesses.

FIRST RESPONDER FUNDING

Committee on Homeland Security: Held a hearing entitled “Grant Reform: The Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act of 2005.” Testimony was heard from Lee H. Hamilton, Vice Chair, National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States; and public witnesses.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY—STRENGTHEN INFORMATION SECURITY

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Management, Integration, and Oversight held a hearing entitled “The Need to Strengthen Information Security at the Department of Homeland Security.” Testimony was heard from Steven I. Cooper, Chief Information Officer, Department of Homeland Security; Gregory C. Wilshusen, Director, Information Security Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

STATE DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES FUNDING

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights, and International Operations held a hearing on Foreign Relations Authorization for FY 2005–2006: Department of State Management Initiatives. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of State: Christopher B. Burnham, Acting Under Secretary, Management; and Louise Crane, Vice President, American Foreign Service Association.

AVERTING NUCLEAR TERRORISM

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on International Terrorism and Nonproliferation held a hearing on Averting Nuclear Terrorism. Testimony

was heard from R. James Woolsey, former Director, CIA; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—FISHERIES CONSERVATION

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on Fisheries and Oceans held an oversight hearing on the Relationship between the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. Testimony was heard from Dinah Bear, General Counsel, Council on Environmental Quality; William T. Hogarth, Director, National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, Department of Commerce; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 432, Betty Dick Residence Protection Act; H.R. 481, Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site Trust Act of 2005; and H.R. 1492, To provide for the preservation of the historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained during Work War II. Testimony was heard from Representatives Thomas, Udall of Colorado and Honda; Michael Snyder, Acting Deputy Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior.

MATH AND SCIENCE TEACHING AWARDS

Committee on Science: Held a hearing on the 2004 Presidential Awardees for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

ESTATE TAX AND THE ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX—SMALL BUSINESSES INEQUITY

Committee on Small Business: Subcommittee on Tax, Finance and Exports held a hearing entitled “The Estate Tax and the Alternative Minimum Tax—Inequity for America’s Small Businesses.” Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

FAA TRANSPORTATION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Aviation held an oversight hearing on Transforming the Federal Aviation Administration: a Review of the Air Traffic Organization and the Joint Program Development Office. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Transportation: Jeffrey N. Shane, Under Secretary, Policy; and Kenneth Mead, Inspector General; Gerald L. Dillingham, Director, Physical Infrastructure Issues, GAO; and a public witness.

OVERSIGHT—NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS SYSTEM

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings and Emergency Management held an oversight hearing on The National Preparedness System: What are we preparing for? Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Homeland Security: Corey D. Gruber, Associate Director, Office for Domestic Preparedness; and Gil Jamieson, Director, NIMS Integration Center; and public witnesses.

U.S. CHINA ECONOMIC RELATIONS

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on United States-China Economic Relations and China's Role in the World Economy. Testimony was heard from Representative Sanders; Kristin J. Forbes, member, Council of Economic Advisers; Charles W. Freeman, III, Assistant U.S. Trade Representative, China Affairs; Douglas Holtz-Eakin, Director, CBO; and public witnesses.

TAX SEASON/IRS BUDGET

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Oversight held a hearing on 2005 Tax Return Filing Season and the IRS Budget for Fiscal Year 2006. Testimony was heard from Mark W. Everson, Commissioner, IRS, Department of the Treasury; James R. White, Director, Tax Issues, GAO; and public witnesses.

GLOBAL UPDATES BRIEFING

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to receive a briefing on Global Updates. The Committee was briefed by departmental witnesses.

GENERAL DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM BUDGET

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to hold a hearing on General Defense Intelligence Program (GDIP) Budget. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

VETERANS' LEGISLATIVE PRESENTATIONS

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine legislative presentations of certain veterans' organizations, after receiving testimony from William A. Boettcher, AMVETS, Lanham, Maryland; James Cooper, American Ex-Prisoners of War, Arlington, Texas; Thomas H. Corey, Vietnam Veterans of America, Silver Spring, Maryland; Colonel Robert F. Norton, USA (Ret.), and John Class, USN (Ret.), both of Military Officers Association of America, Alexandria, Virginia; and Brigadier General Leslie E. Beavers, USA (Ret.), National Association of State Directors of Veterans' Affairs, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded hearings to examine the current economic outlook for April 2005, after receiving testimony from Harvey S. Rosen, Chairman, and Kristen J. Forbes, Member, both of the Council of Economic Advisers.

RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES IN RUSSIA

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission): Commission concluded a hearing to examine problems experienced by unregistered religious communities operating within the Russian Federation, after receiving testimony from John V. Hanford, III, Ambassador-at-Large for International Religious Freedom, Department of State; Lawrence A. Uzzell, International Religious Freedom Watch, Fishersville, Virginia; Paul Goble, University of Tartu, Estonia; Boris Perchatkin, American-Russian Relief Committee, Washington; Andrew Okhotin, Independent Christian Baptists, Massachusetts; Sergei Cherpanov, Jehovah's Witnesses, Russia.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No committee meetings are scheduled.